

A Sustainable Future Begins With You

WELCOME TO THE spring 2015 issue of *Currents*. I'd like to take this opportunity to say a few words about Earth Day, highlight some of the great stories we have included in this issue of the magazine, and mention some noteworthy energy and environmental items.

As the pull-out poster in the center of this issue attests, it's Earth Day season. The theme for Earth Day this year is *A Sustainable Future Begins with You*, underscoring the impact of our individual actions in preserving the environment for generations to come. Around the world, Navy commands and individuals have been showcasing efforts to protect the environment and conserve energy through Earth Day activities such as beach and neighborhood cleanups, recycling drives, and educational programs with local communities. Thanks to each of you for sustaining the Navy's environmental stewardship and helping to tell the Navy's good story.

Featured in this issue is the Navy's Living Marine Resources program and its new initiatives to enhance Navy marine species monitoring programs. I encourage you to take some time to familiarize yourself with the program's nine new projects and the benefits they're

regarding the presence of munition constituents in the marine environment.

2. Developed a modeling tool to identify source areas of copper and zinc on Navy facilities.
3. Studied the effectiveness of power vacuuming and high-pressure washing to reduce toxicity levels in stormwater.



You've likely heard of the increased focus in recent months on innovation-related ideas and practices Navy-wide. Along those lines, we've talked to you about the ongoing push to incorporate additive manufacturing processes (also known as 3-D printing) into our operations where it is feasible to do so. Our colleagues at the Fleet Readiness Center East in Cherry Point, North Carolina have helped to advance this conversation by identifying the potential environmental impacts and

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expected to bring to our ability to monitor species on our at-sea testing and training ranges.

Also in this issue are three stories about successful projects sponsored by the Navy Environmental Sustainability Development to Integration program. These efforts, led by Principal Investigators from the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, Systems Center Pacific, accomplished the following objectives:

1. Demonstrated that a new kind of passive sampler has the potential to provide more definitive answers

workplace safety measures associated with this advanced technology in our article "Additive Manufacturing Gaining Traction at Fleet Readiness Center East."

Our article "Navy Region Southwest & National Marine Fisheries Service Salvage Rare Whale Carcass" is a great example of Navy Region Southwest's efforts to test the Navy's stranding response procedures and strengthen relationships with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and Southwest Fisheries Science Center. And in our "Trends of the Environment" section, we introduce

you to one of the Navy's new R&D programs—the Navy Shore Energy Technology Transition and Insertion (NSETTI) program. The NSETTI program is focused on demonstrating innovative energy technologies for use by the Navy's shore community.

This past February, I accompanied Ms. Donna Wieting, Director of the Office of Protected Resources and members of her staff at NMFS on a visit to U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFF) in Norfolk. We met with representatives from the USFF Environmental Readiness Division to discuss Navy training requirements and environmental stewardship efforts. We also visited with the commanders and crews of USS Arlington (LPD 24), USS Bainbridge (DDG 96), and USS Newport News (SSN 750), who effectively demonstrated how environmental permitting requirements are integrated into operational directives and executed with Navy professionalism and proficiency. It was a memorable visit that allowed the NMFS team to see first-hand how USFF and our operators lead environmental efforts in support of the Navy mission to maintain, train and equip combat-ready military forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas.

from environmental compliance and pollution prevention, natural and cultural resources protection, energy conservation, land use compatibility, assessment of vulnerability to sea level rise, and personnel safety.



I also want to mention a recent memo from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition that directs program managers for new construction ships to pursue installation of light-emitting diodes (LED) as part of a strategy to increase time on-station, decrease time spent on maintenance, and prevent shipboard injuries. The memo, released this past February, authorizes program managers to spend up to \$2 million per ship, or more in some cases, subject to funding availability. LEDs' lower energy consumption means the bulbs will "pay for themselves" in one to five years. But even greater benefits of LEDs are better quality of light, easier storage, and longer bulb life.

Finally, we're happy to announce that *Currents* has added another award to its rich history of recognition

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In March, I visited Naval Air Station Jacksonville and met with Ms. Maureen Sullivan, Director, Environment, Safety and Occupational Health in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and Rear Admiral Mary Jackson, Commander Navy Region Southeast to discuss energy, environmental, safety and compatibility initiatives and challenges on base and in the region. Ms. Sullivan and I also visited Naval Station Mayport for briefings on upcoming projects and associated environmental planning efforts at this active installation. We had a chance to speak with environmental, public works and safety officers and were impressed by the breadth and depth of the programs that support the missions at the installations, ranging

over the past several years. The magazine received an honorable mention in the Navy Media Awards competition for fiscal year 2014. We realize it is the great work you and your colleagues are doing to safeguard the environment and optimize energy use that provides the basis for this and past awards that have been earned by the magazine. We look forward to promoting more of your efforts in the months and years to come. 🌊

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